8. No.

9. It is not enough to consider cheapness of price only; reliability of the firm and quality of articles, consistent with economy, have also to be taken into consideration.

Insanitary condition of a drain in Kunnamkulam.

75. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to inform:—

(a) whether the Government, the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer, or the Health Officer at Kunnamkulam has received any petition stating:

"പാറേൽ അങ്ങാടിയിൽ പൊല്ലീസ്സ സ്റ്റേഷനടുത്തുള്ള നാലുംകൂടിയ വഴിയിൽനിന്നും വടക്കോട്ടുള്ള അങ്ങാടിയുടെ കിഴക്കെ ഭാഗം ചാലൽ വെള്ളം ചളി മുതലായതുകൾ കെട്ടിനിന്നു അതു മൂലം ടി കിഴക്കെഭാഗം വീട്ടുകാർക്ക കൊതു മുതലായ പ്രാണികളുടെ ഉപദ്രവവും മലമ്പനി മുതലായ രോഗങ്ങളും ഉണ്ടായിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നു."

and if so, (b) whether the Government have made enquiries about this grievance; and if so,

(c) whether the Government has taken adequate action to redress the grievance; and if so,

(d) what is it?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—(a) Yes, a petition to that effect was received by the Health Officer as well as by the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) The reports appended contain the information required. (*Vide Appendix III.*)

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Has any action been taken in this matter besides sending a report to the Chief Engineer?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Yes. Necessary action has been taken, and I wrote to the Chief Engineer about it, and since the answer to this question has been sent, I have heard from the Chief Engineer that it did not form part of his work to attend to this drain. So I have made up my mind to get it done, and have reported to the Government about it. I will look into it in the next year's work.

Panchayat Administration.

76. Mr. Poulo Mampilli.—Will the Government be pleased to state if the several matters that were engaging their attention, as stated in *the Administration Reports* of the Agriculture and Panchayat Department for 1100 and 1101, designed to increase the efficiency and usefulness of the Panchayats have

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

APPENDIX II.

(Vide Answer to Question No. 74).

Staetment of price to certain drugs in 1101 and 1102.

Drugs	1101			1102		
	Quantity	Per	Price	Quantity	Per	Price
			Rs. A. P.			Rs. A. P.
Magnesium Sulphate...	266 cwt.	cwt.	6 14 0	254 cwt.	cwt.	8 12 0
Santonine ...	15 lb.	oz.	44 0 0	15 lb.	oz.	44 0 0
Soda bicarbonate ...	1147 ,,	lb.	0 4 0	1344 ,,	lb.	0 4 0
Borax pulvis ...	30 ,,	,,	0 12 0	34 ,,	,,	0 12 0
Bismuth subnitras ...	184 ,,	,,	13 8 0	270 ,,	,,	13 8 0
Potas nitras ...	152 ,,	,,	1 2 0	197 ,,	,,	1 2 0
Vinum Rectificatus ...	200 gal.	gal.	7 8 8	195 gal.	gal.	7 8 8
Emplaster Canthardis..	5 oz.	oz.	0 8 0	13 oz.	oz.	0 8 0
Tincture Canabis Indica ...	5 lb.	lb.	4 0 0	This year we have received only concentrated tincture		
Folia Buchu ...	56 ,,	,,	6 0 0	58 lb.	lb.	6 0 0

Mag. Sulph. in 1101 @ Rs. 6—14—0 Indian Manufacture (Parry & Co.)
Do in 1102 @ Rs. 8—12—0 Imported from Europe.

APPENDIX III.

(Vide Answer to Question No. 75.)

Report dated 8th Medam 1102 from the Health Officer, Kunnamkulam to the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer.

There was a similar petition to me also. I personally inquired into the matter and saw things myself. There is some truth in the petition, though facts have been overstated and magnified by the petitioners. The water flowing from the backyard of the neighbouring house, which has no other outlet for escape, cannot freely pass through the public drain, as the drain is not constructed and the gradient is bad. Water therefore collects in the depressed portion of the drain and stagnates a little. To give the matter a serious appearance and thereby drive the Government to take up the construction of the drain urgently, the petitioner himself put up a temporary bund across the drain and thereby prevented even the partial flow of water beyond the limit of his grocery shop which would otherwise have happened. When questioned by me as to the propriety of his conduct in obstructing the

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

flow of water, his answer was that he was doing it for the safe preservation of the coins, etc., that now and then inadvertently slip into the drain from the hands of his clients who resort for purchase. The petitioner also admitted that he has been allowing all sedimentary matter to be carted away by manure collectors every Sunday. By such removal the drain in that particular portion has got deepened. I have now filled up this huge depression with clean laterite earth and instructed the petitioner not to interfere with the drain any more. If the petitioner acts up to this nstruction, there is no reason to fear that that the evil will grow serious. It will also be in the fitness of things to propose in this connection that the construction of this the drain, which is only a few yards in length and cannot therefore cost much, may be taken up early by the Sirkar.

The drain being an adjunct of the main road leading to Vettikatavu, the control of the same vests in the P. W. D., and as such, cannot be interfered with by the Sanitary Department. The work which may cost only very little may, therefore, be taken to the notice of the Chief Engineer.

Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer's letter C. No. 580/1102, dated 2nd May 1927, to the Chief Engineer.

In communicating copy of a petition and the report of the Health Officer thereon, regarding the alleged insanitary condition of the drain in the street to the north of the Police Station, Kunnamkulam, I have the honour to inform you that I quite agree with the Health Officer in suggesting a masonry drain at this part of the bazaar in question, as otherwise no effective measure could be adopted to keep the drain in a sanitary condition.

I would, therefore, request you to be so good as to do the need full in the matter.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly